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NEWHAVEN PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

Year ended

31st December, 1938.

NEWHAVEN,
14th February, 1939.

1 9 3 8.

PORT HEALTH REPORT.

To the Members of the
Newhaven Port Health Authority.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health for the Port of Newhaven during the year 1938.

During the year 1938, the health of the crews in the ships entering the Harbour has been very good. The only cases of illness coming under my observation were as follows:

January 9th	Motor Vessel Franklin	Neurasthenia
February 6th	S.S. Egyptian Prince	Gastric Ulcer
April 11th	S.S. Worthing	Measles.

The permanent arrangements for the protection of the Port against the introduction of Infectious Disease remain the same as described in my Annual Report for the year 1933.

The only foreign port with which Newhaven has any considerable traffic is Dieppe and the chief risk of the importation of infectious disease is from Aliens arriving in this Country from Europe.

The Ships entering the Port have been periodically inspected during the year 1938, eighty-nine inspections having been made by the Sanitary Inspector and myself. Twenty-three minor defects were discovered, and all remedied except one.

The only place for the cleansing and disinfection of verminous persons and their clothing is the Isolation Hospital which is situated about 1½ miles from the Port. Such cases are of very rare occurrence and there were none to be dealt with during the year 1938.

ALIENS ORDER 1920.

During the year 1938, the number of Aliens entering the Port totalled 38,913, of whom 114 were rejected and 38,799 allowed to land.

The Medical Inspection and examination of Aliens arriving at the Port are regularly carried out by myself and my Deputy Dr. E. J. Neill.

The number of Aliens medically inspected during the year was 38,268 and the number submitted to Medical Examination was 969 of whom 4 were rejected for the following reasons:

Unsound Mind	2
Arthritis	1
Excision of Kidney	1
	4

PSITTACOSIS.

Cases of this Disease having occurred in this Country, the importation of all birds of the species Psitticaformes was prohibited by the Parrots (Prohibition of Import) Regulations of May 20th, 1930.

Apart from consignments sanctioned by special permit from the Ministry of Health, six other consignments of these birds arrived in the Port during the year 1938. Five of these were returned to Dieppe by the next boat and one was destroyed.

THE FOREIGN MEAT AND UNSOUND FOOD REGULATIONS.

The chief imports into the Port consist of fruit and vegetables, including new potatoes from the Channel Islands. The following articles were condemned as unfit for human consumption:- 1 Cask Salt Pork, 1 package Pigs' Trotters, 3 lbs. Chocolate, 3 cases Sweetbreads and Calves Heads, 2 cases Sweetbreads, 1 package Cooked Lamb, 1 package Sheep's trotters, 1 basket Sausages and Sausage Meat.

PASSENGER SERVICE BETWEEN NEWHAVEN AND DIEPPE DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

NEWHAVEN TO DIEPPE

Year.	No. of Voyages	No. of Passengers
1934	749	103,933
1935	751	102,860
1936	761	113,567
1937	797	189,903
1938	807	193,159

DIEPPE TO NEWHAVEN.

1934	749	106,054
1935	752	105,811
1936	760	118,880
1937	797	186,807
1938	807	190,209

1. AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT DURING THE YEAR 1938.

TABLE A.

	No.	Tonnage	Number Inspected. By the Medical Officer of Health.	Number Inspected. By the Sanitary Inspector.	Number reported to be defective.	Number of Vessels on which defects were remedied.	Number of vessels reported as having or having had, infectious disease on board during the voyage
Foreign:- Steamers			2	9	1	1	Nil
Motor				9			
Sailing							
Fishing				3	1		
Total.	1240	744,520	2	21	2	1	Nil
Coastwise Steamers			1	52	18	18	Nil
Motor				5			
Sailing							
Fishing				8			
Total.	778	167,172	1	65	18	18	Nil
Total Foreign & Coastwise	2018	911,692	3	86	20	19	Nil

11. CHARACTER OF TRADE OF PORT.

TABLE B.

(a) Passenger Traffic During 1938.

No. of Passengers	1st. Class	2nd. Class	3rd. Class	Transmigrants
Inwards.	8,855	54,587	126,767	279
Outwards.	8,551	56,186	128,422	45

(b) Cargo Traffic.

Chief Imports:- Manufactures of Silk, Cotton and Wool, Timber, Coal, Stone, Motor Cars, Machinery, Watches, Clocks, Chemicals, Brandy, Wine, Potatoes, Vegetables and Fruits.

Chief Exports. Fish, Textiles, Machinery and Fur Skins

111. Source of Water Supply.

The Source of the Water Supply for the Port and shipping is the well belonging to the Southern Railway Co. This well is sunk into the chalk at Denton and the water derived from it

is of good quality; it has been analysed on five occasions during the year 1938.

IV. Port Sanitary Arrangements.

The arrangements in force remain the same as described in my Annual Report for 1933.

TABLE C.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS LANDED FROM VESSELS.

Disease	No. of Cases during 1938		No. of Vessels Concerned	Average No. of Cases for previous five Years.
	Passengers.	Crew.		
Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

TABLE D.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS OCCURRING ON VESSELS DURING THE VOYAGE BUT DISPOSED OF PRIOR TO ARRIVAL.

Disease.	No. of Cases during 1938.		No. of Vessels Concerned	Average No. of Cases for previous five years.
	Passengers	Crew.		
Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

RATS DESTROYED DURING 1938.

TABLE E.

(1) On Vessels.

Number of Rats.	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total in Year.
Black Brown. Species not recorded Examined Infected with Plague													0

TABLE F

(2) In Docks, Quays, Wharves and Warehouses.

Number of Rats.	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total in Year.
Black Brown Species not recorded Examined Infected with Plague				MONTH NOT KNOWN									30

HYGIENE OF CREWS' SPACES.

TABLE J.

Classification of Nuisances.

Nationality of Vessel.	Number inspected during 1938.	Defects of original Construction.	Structural defects through wear and tear.	Dirt, vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health.
British	66	Nil	6	15
Other Nations	23	Nil	Nil	2

RATS.

The Cross Channel Steamers are periodically overhauled for the presence of rats, and a man is specially appointed by the Southern Railway Company to trap and poison rats on the quays and in the various warehouses. Six rats were sent for bacterialogical examination.

My thanks are due to the Officials of the Southern Railway Company, and also to the Officials of the Customs, Home Office and C.I.D. for their unfailing courtesy and the ready help extended to me by them in the execution of my duties.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

RODIE PARKHURST.

NEWHAVEN,
February 14th, 1939.